

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A device-to-device authentication system for authenticating a device ~~one or more devices on a home network connectable to an external network via a router~~, characterized by the system comprising:

means for holding a MAC media access control address of said router set as a default gateway; and

local environment management means for ~~confirming whether or not another device requesting for accessing to said device on said home network is present on said home network based on whether or not a MAC address of said request source device of accessing is identified or non-identified with a MAC address of said router set as a default gateway~~ determining when a home network of a first device and a home network of a second device are the same home network by comparing a source media access control address to the media access control address of the default gateway.

2. (Currently Amended) The device-to-device authentication system according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that:~~

~~one of said devices~~ wherein the first device is a home server for legitimately acquiring content[[s]], ~~whereas the other of said devices~~ and the second device is a client for making a request for ~~said~~the content[[s]] to ~~said~~the home server ~~for use; and~~

wherein, in response to ~~confirmation of presence of both devices on~~ determining
the devices are both on saidthe same home network, ~~saidthe~~ home server provides
~~saidthe~~ content[[s]] ~~and/or or~~ issues a license for ~~saidthe~~ content[[s]] to ~~saidthe~~ client.

3. (Currently Amended) The device-to-device authentication system according to
claim 1, ~~characterized in that:~~

wherein the first device is one of two or more home servers are able to be
installed on ~~saidthe~~ home network of the first device;

wherein the second device is a client; and

wherein each one or more of said the two or more home servers can provide
~~provides said~~ content[[s]] ~~and/or or~~ issue a license for ~~saidthe~~ content[[s]] to ~~said-~~
~~clients that is confirmed to be present~~ the client when it is determined to be on saidthe
same home network.

4. (Currently Amended) The device-to-device authentication system according to
claim 3, ~~characterized in that:~~

wherein ~~saidthe~~ client is able to receive a provision of ~~saidthe~~ content[[s]] ~~and/or~~
or issuance of ~~saidthe~~ license for ~~saidthe~~ content[[s]] from one or more of saidthe two or
more home servers on ~~saidthe~~ same home network.

5. (Currently Amended) The device-to-device authentication system according to
claim 3, ~~characterized in that:~~

~~wherein said~~the client is able to use ~~said~~the content[[s]] acquired from a ~~plurality~~
of ~~the two or more~~ home servers on ~~said~~the same home network, and, upon connection
to a home server on ~~an other~~a second home network, ~~said~~the client is not able to use
~~said~~the content[[s]] acquired from ~~said~~ the two or more home servers on ~~said~~ the same
home network[[s]] ~~other than said other home network.~~

6. (Canceled).

7. (Currently Amended) A device-to-device authentication system for
~~authenticating a device on a home network connectable to an external network via a~~
~~router, characterized by~~the system comprising:

~~means for sharing the same identification information regarding said home~~
~~network between said devices on said same home network~~ storing identification
information identifying a home network of a first device and a home network of a second
device; and

means for ~~said local environment management means confirms whether or not~~
~~each of said devices is present on said same home network based on whether or not~~
~~each of said devices shares the same identification information regarding said home~~
~~network~~ determining when the home network of the first device and the home network
of the second device are the same home network by comparing the identification
information identifying the home network of the first device to the identification
information identifying the home network of the second device, wherein the home
network of the first device and the home network of the second device are determined

to be the same home network when the comparison determines the information
identifying the home network of the first device and the identification information
identifying the home network of the second device are the same.

8. (Currently Amended) The device-to-device authentication system according to claim 7, ~~characterized in that:~~

~~each of said devices acquires~~ wherein the first device and the second device
acquire a MAC media access control address of said a router set as a default gateway
as the identification information regarding identifying said the home network of the first
device and the second device; and

~~whether or not each of said devices is present on said same home network the~~
~~home network of the first device and the home network of second device are the same.~~
home network is confirmed determined based on whether or not each of said devices
has a the first device and the second device have the same media access control MAC
address of said the same default gateway.

9. (Currently Amended) The device-to-device authentication system according to claim 7, ~~characterized in that~~ further comprising:

a local environment management apparatus located on the home network of the
first device and the home network of the second device for supplying network the
identification information is installed on said home network; and

~~each of said devices acquires wherein the first device and second device acquire~~
a MAC media access control address of ~~said~~the local environment management
apparatus as identification information ~~regarding~~ identifying ~~said~~the home network; and
~~wherein whether or not each of said devices is present on said same home-~~
~~network~~ the home network of the first device and the home network of second device
are the same home network ~~is confirmed~~ determined based on whether or not each of
~~said devices has a~~ the first device and the second device have the same media access
control MAC address of ~~said~~the ~~same~~ local environment management apparatus.

10. (Currently Amended) A device-to-device authentication method ~~for~~
~~authenticating a device on a home network connectable to an external network via a~~
~~router, characterized by comprising:~~

~~a step of holding a MAC~~ media access control address of ~~said router set as a~~
default gateway; and

~~a local environment management step of confirming whether or not another~~
~~device requesting for accessing to said device on said home network is present on said~~
~~home network based on whether or not a MAC address of said request source device of~~
~~accessing is identified or non-identified with a MAC address of said router set as a~~
~~default gateway~~ determining when a home network of a first device and a home network
of a second device are the same home network by comparing a source media access
control address to the media access control address of the default gateway.

11. (Currently Amended) The device-to-device authentication method according to claim 10, ~~characterized in that:~~

wherein one of said devices the first device is a home server for legitimately acquiring content[[s]], ~~whereas the other of said devices and the second device~~ is a client for making a request for ~~said~~ content[[s]] to ~~said~~the home server for use; and

wherein, in response to confirmation of presence of both devices on determining the first device and the second de are on saidthe same home network in ~~said~~the local environment management step, saidthe home server provides ~~said~~the content[[s]] and/or issues a license for ~~said~~the content[[s]] to ~~said~~the client.

12. (Currently Amended) The device-to-device authentication method according to claim 10, ~~characterized in that:~~

wherein the first device is one of two or more home servers are able to be installed on ~~said~~the home network of the first device;

wherein the second device is a client; and

wherein each one or more of said the two or more home servers can provide ~~provides said~~ content[[s]] and/or issues or issue a license for ~~said~~the content[[s]] to ~~said~~ clients ~~that is confirmed to be present~~ the client when it is determined to be on saidthe same home network.

13. (Currently Amended) The device-to-device authentication method according to claim 12, ~~characterized in that:~~

wherein ~~said~~the client is able to receive a provision of ~~said~~the content~~[[s]]~~ ~~and/or~~
or issuance of ~~said~~the license for ~~said~~the content~~[[s]]~~ from ~~said~~the two or more home
servers on ~~said~~the same home network.

14. (Currently Amended) The device-to-device authentication method according
to claim 12, ~~characterized in that:~~

wherein ~~said~~the client is able to use ~~said~~the content~~[[s]]~~ acquired from ~~a plurality~~
~~of the two or more~~ home servers on ~~said~~the same home network, and, upon connection
to a home server on ~~an other~~a second home network, ~~said~~the client is not able to use
~~said~~the content~~[[s]]~~ acquired from the ~~said~~ two or more home servers on ~~said~~the home
network~~[[s]]~~ ~~other than said~~the ~~other~~ home network.

15. (Canceled)

16. (Currently Amended) A device-to-device authentication method ~~for~~
~~authenticating a device on a home network connectable to an external network via a~~
~~router, characterized by comprising:~~

~~a step of sharing the same identification information regarding said home~~
~~network between said devices on said same home network~~ storing identification
information identifying a home network of a first device and a home network of a second
device; and

~~in said local environment management step, whether or not each of said devices~~
~~is present on said same home network is confirmed based on whether or not each of~~

~~said devices shares the same identification information regarding said home network~~
determining when the home network of the first device and the home network of the
second device are the same home network by comparing the identification information
identifying the home network of the first device to the identification information
identifying the home network of the second device, wherein the home network of the
first device and the home network of the second device are determined to be the same
network when the comparison determines the information identifying the home network
of the first device and the identification information identifying the home network of the
second device are the same.

17. (Currently Amended) The device-to-device authentication method according
to claim 16, ~~characterized in that~~ further comprising:

~~in said local environment management step, each of said devices acquires~~
acquiring by the first device and the second device a MAC media access control
address of said a router set as a default gateway as identification information regarding
~~said~~ the home network of the first device and the second device; and

wherein whether or not ~~each of said devices is present on said same home~~
~~network~~ the home network of the first device and the home network of second device
are the same home network is ~~confirmed~~ determined based on whether or not ~~each of~~
~~said devices has a~~ the first device and the second device have the same media access
control MAC address of ~~said~~ the same default gateway.

18. (Currently Amended) The device-to-device authentication method according to claim 16, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein:

a local environment management apparatus is located on the home network of the first device and the home network of the second device for supplying ~~network the~~ identification information ~~is installed on said home network~~; and

~~in said logical management step, each of said devices acquires~~ the first device and the second device acquire a MAG media access control address of ~~said~~the local environment management apparatus as identification information regarding ~~said~~the home network; and

~~whether or not each of said devices is present on said same home network~~ the home network of the first device and the home network of second device are the same
~~home network is confirmed determined based on whether or not each of said devices~~
~~has a~~ the first device and the second device have the same media access control MAG address of ~~said~~the same local environment management apparatus.

19. (Currently Amended) A communication apparatus ~~for operating on a home network connectable to an external network via a router~~, characterized by comprising:

means for holding a MAG media access control address of ~~said router set as a~~ default gateway; and

local environment management means for ~~confirming whether or not another device requesting for accessing to said device on said home network is present on said home network based on whether or not a MAC address of said request source device of accessing is identified or non-identified with a MAC address of said router set as a~~

~~default gateway determining when a home network of a device and a home network of~~
~~the communication apparatus are the same home network by comparing a source~~
~~media access control address to the media access control address of the default~~
~~gateway.~~

20. (Currently Amended) The communication apparatus according to claim 19,
~~characterized in that:~~

~~wherein said~~the communication apparatus operates as a home server for
providing content[[s]] on ~~said~~ the home network of the communication apparatus; and

~~wherein said~~the communication apparatus further comprises content-provision
means for providing ~~said~~ content[[s]] ~~and/or or~~ issuing a license for ~~said~~the content[[s]]

~~only when the communication apparatus and the device are to a device confirmed to be~~
~~present~~determined to be on ~~said~~the same home network ~~by said local environment~~
~~management means.~~

21. (Currently Amended) The communication apparatus according to claim 19,
~~characterized in that:~~

~~wherein said~~the communication apparatus operates as a client for making a
request for content[[s]] to a home server for use on ~~said~~ the home network of the
communication apparatus;

~~wherein said~~the communication apparatus further comprises content-using
means for receiving a provision of ~~said~~ content[[s]] ~~and/or or~~ issuance of a license for
~~said~~the content[[s]] only when the device is the home server and from a home server

~~confirmed to be present~~ determined to be on ~~said~~the same home network ~~by said local~~
environment management means.

22. (Currently Amended) The communication apparatus according to claim 21,
~~characterized in that:~~

wherein two or more home servers are able to be installed on ~~said~~ the
home network of the communication apparatus;

wherein ~~said~~the content-using means receives a provision of ~~said~~the content[[s]]
and/or or issuance of a license for ~~said~~the content[[s]] only from the two or more home
servers, ~~confirmed to be present~~determined to be on ~~said~~the same home network of the
communication apparatus ~~by said local environment management means.~~

23. (Currently Amended) The communication apparatus according to claim 21,
~~characterized in that:~~

wherein ~~said~~the content-using means is able to use ~~said~~the content[[s]] acquired
from a plurality of home servers on ~~said~~the same home network of the communication
apparatus, and, upon connection to a home server on ~~an other~~a second home network,
~~said~~the client is not able to use ~~said~~the content[[s]] acquired from the ~~said~~the home
servers on ~~said~~the home network of the communication apparatus ~~networks other than~~
~~said other home network.~~

24. (Canceled)

25. (Currently Amended) A communication apparatus ~~operating as a client for making request for content~~~~[[s]] to a home server for use, on a home network connectable to an external network via a router, characterized by comprising:~~

~~means for sharing the same identification information regarding said home network between devices on said same home network~~ storing identification information identifying a home network of the communication apparatus and a home network of a device; and

means for said local environment management means confirms whether or not each of said devices is present on said same home network based on whether or not each of said devices shares the same identification information regarding said home network determining when the home network of the communication apparatus and the home network of device are the same home network by comparing the identification information identifying the home network of the communication apparatus to the identification information identifying the home network of the device, wherein the home network of the communication apparatus and the home network of the device are determined to be the same network when the comparison determines the information identifying the home network of the communication apparatus and the identification information identifying the home network of the device are the same.

26. (Currently Amended) The communication apparatus according to claim 25, characterized in that:

wherein said the local environment management means acquires a MAC media access control address of said a router set as a default gateway as identification

information ~~regarding~~ identifying said ~~the~~ home network of the communication apparatus
and the home network of the device; and

wherein whether or not a the device on other side of communication is present
on ~~said~~ the same home network is ~~confirmed~~ determined based on whether or not
~~said~~ the device on other side of communication has and the communication apparatus
acquire the same a MAC media access control address of ~~said~~ the same default
gateway.

27. (Currently Amended) The communication apparatus according to claim 25,
characterized in that:

wherein a local environment management apparatus for supplying network
~~identification information is installed on said~~ the home network of the communication
apparatus and the home network of the device; and

~~said~~ the local environment management means acquires a MAG media access
control address of ~~said~~ the local environment management apparatus as identification
information regarding ~~said~~ the home network of the communication apparatus and the
home network of the device; and

whether or not a the device on other side of communication is present on ~~said~~ the
same home network is ~~confirmed~~ determined based on whether or not ~~said~~ the device
~~on other side of communication~~ and the communication apparatus acquire the same
~~has a~~ MAG media access control address of ~~said~~ the same local environment
management apparatus.

28. (Currently Amended) ~~A computer program described in a computer-readable format so as to execute a process~~ A computer-readable medium, storing a computer program for causing a processor to execute a method for authenticating a first device, on a home network connectable to an external network via a router, on which a home server for legitimately acquiring contents from said external network and a client for making a request for said contents for use are present, said computer program characterized by providing content to a first device on a home network, the method comprising:

~~a local environment management step of confirming whether or not said home server and said client are present on said home network based on whether or not a MAC address of said request source client of accessing is identified or non-identified with a MAC address of said router set as a default gateway~~ determining when the first device and a second device are both on the home network by comparing a source media access control address to a media access control address of a default gateway;
and

~~providing said contents and/or~~ content or issuing a license for said ~~the~~ content ~~to said client~~ the first device by said home server the second device if in response to confirmation of presence of both said devices the first device and the second device are on said ~~the~~ same home network in said local environment management step.